

Droxford Church Leaflet Guide

Author: Michael Collins

www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk



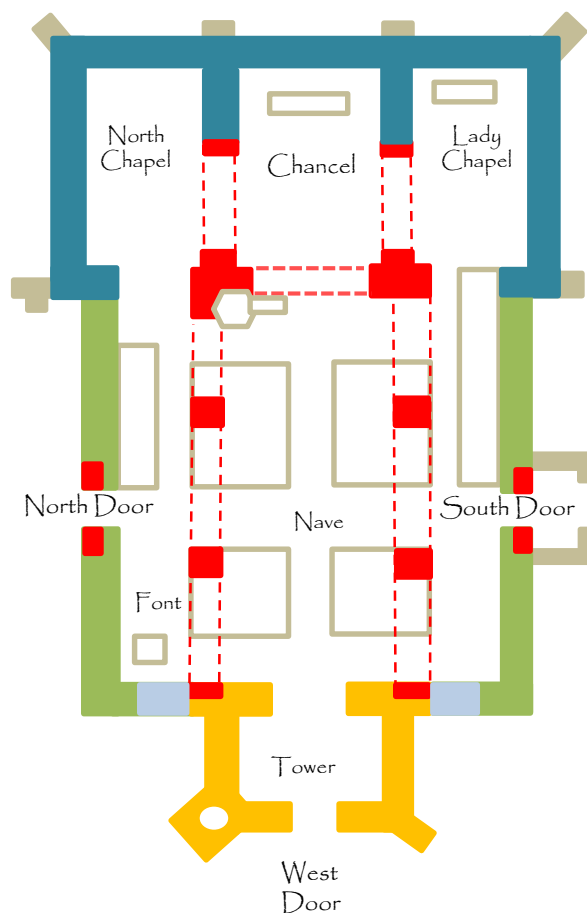
St Mary & All Saints Droxford








St Wilfrid may have established a religious community at Droxford during his mission to the Meon Valley in 681 to 686, but the earliest record of a church here is in the Domesday Book of 1086, when it was valued at 20 shillings, and held by the Bishop of Winchester for the benefit of his monks.

The present church dates from about 1150, when it probably consisted of just a nave and chancel, possibly with an apse. Side aisles and chapels were added during the medieval period. The present tower is Tudor, believed to date from 1599.

This short guide describes some features of this historic Grade 1 listed building. A route around the church is suggested. At the end you will find more information and displays in our Heritage Café.



-  Mid 12th century
-  Late 12th or early 13th centuries
-  Late 13th or early 14th centuries
-  Late 15th or early 16th centuries
-  Late 16th century

When you have explored the church, and visited our café, why not try our heritage trail. This short walk is about a mile in length on footpaths, tracks and minor roads.

Starting at the south door of the church, the trail takes you down to the River Meon, where Isaak Walton would have fished after his daughter Anne married William Hawkins, who was rector from 1664 to 1691. You may be lucky enough to see the herons and kingfishers that frequent the water meadows.

From the river the trail takes you up a short slope to the disused Meon Valley railway line, which is now a popular route for walkers, cyclists and riders. A display board marks the spot where Winston Churchill and other allied leaders were based in a railway carriage in June 1944, to be close to General Eisenhower and other military leaders nearby at Southwick during the invasion of Normandy.

Further along the railway you will pass through the site of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery dating from 450 – 600, which contained up to 300 graves.

Passing the former Droxford Station, which is now a private residence, the trail drops down to Mill Lane, which brings you back through the water meadows to the village, passing close by the Mill, and some timber-framed cottages that are amongst the oldest houses in the village.

Emerging from Mill Lane the houses give a good impression of what the village looked like in Georgian times. From the square you can see the Manor House, the Village Hall, which was once the school.

A free guide to the Droxford Heritage Trail is available by the south door, or in the Heritage Café.

The pillars of the nave and chancel were part of the walls of the original Norman church. The chancel arch has distinctive zigzag carving.



The pulpit is a 19th century copy of a 15th century design, given to Droxford in 1882 by the congregation of St Matthew's, Denmark Hill.



Above the pulpit is access to a medieval rood loft, which ran across the chancel arch, and carried a representation of the crucifixion.



The memorial to those from Droxford who gave their lives in 1914 – 1918 war stands to the left of the north door.



The font is from the 20th century, but designed in a 12th century Norman style. Nearby are memorials to the Morley family, who lived at the Manor House.



The stained glass window in the north west corner was designed in 1982 by Carl Edwards of the Fulham Glass House, and depicts the Creation.



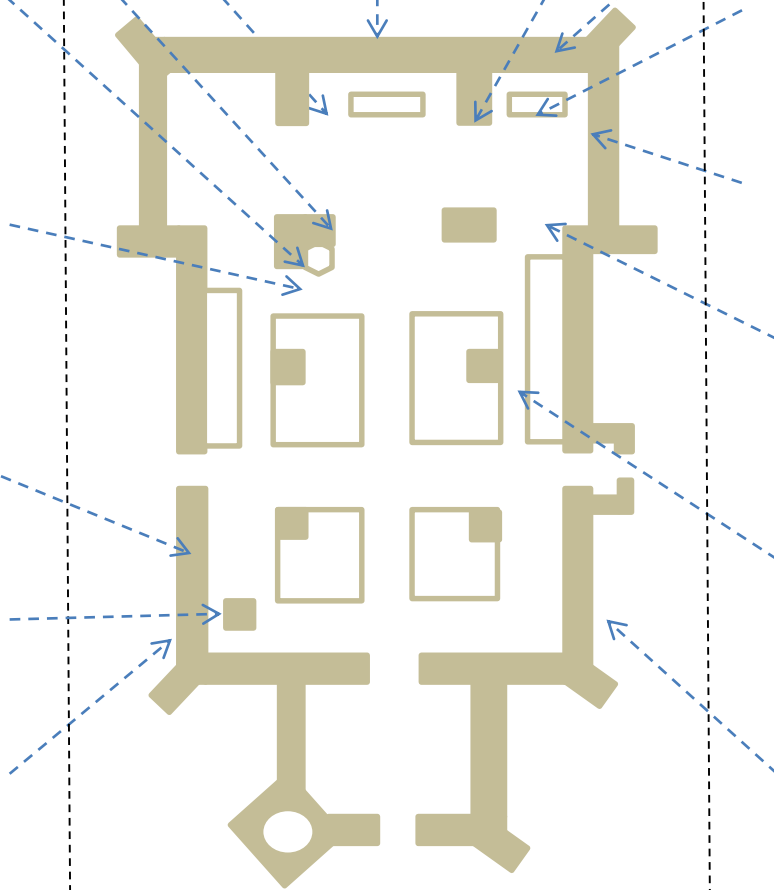
The altar rails are Jacobean. The oak panelling was made early in the early 20th century in a matching style.



The stained glass in the east window was installed in 1947 to replace Victorian glass damaged by a bomb blast in WWII.



The arch between the Lady Chapel and the Chancel rests on two carved heads, which may date from the early 14th century.



St Wilfrid is depicted in the east window of the Lady Chapel with the builders of the present church, which is shown in the background.



The Lady Chapel was consecrated in 1316 by John de Droxford, who was the son of a local squire, and by that time had become Bishop of Bath & Wells.



A medieval piscina, used for washing communion vessels, was uncovered in the Lady Chapel early during restoration in 1903.



The oak screen at the entrance to the Lady Chapel was designed by Sir Charles Nicholson when he was working on designs for Portsmouth Cathedral in 1935.



A light brown marble slab set in the floor of the South Aisle is in memory of Nicholas Preston, Rector from 1642 to 1650, and again from 1660 to 1664, after a break imposed by the Civil War.



The stained glass window in the south west corner of the church was designed by Vanessa Cutler, and installed to mark the Millennium in 2000.

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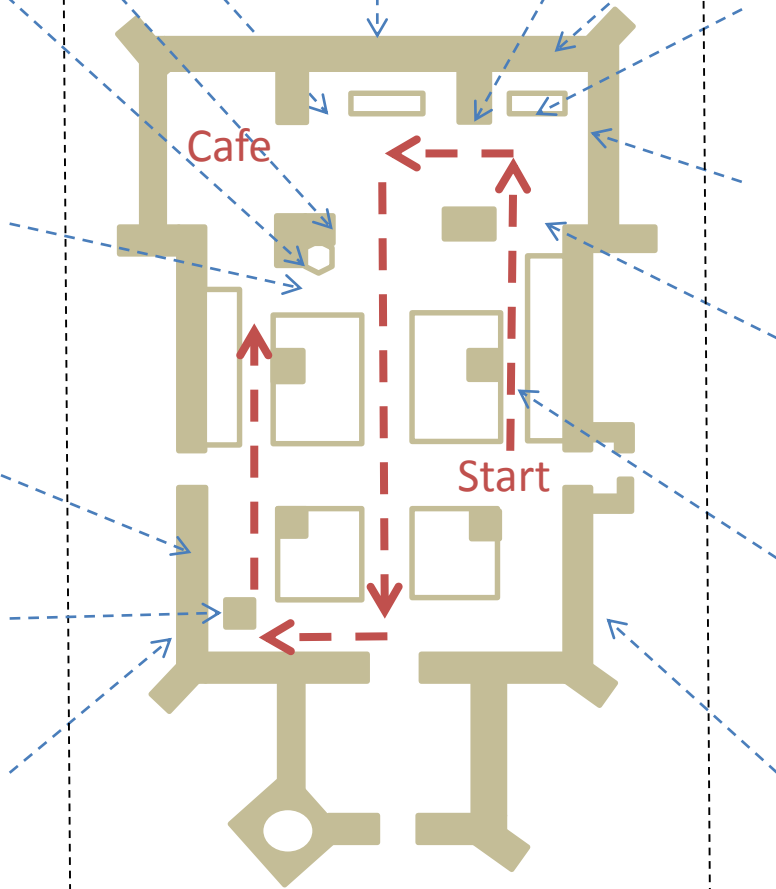
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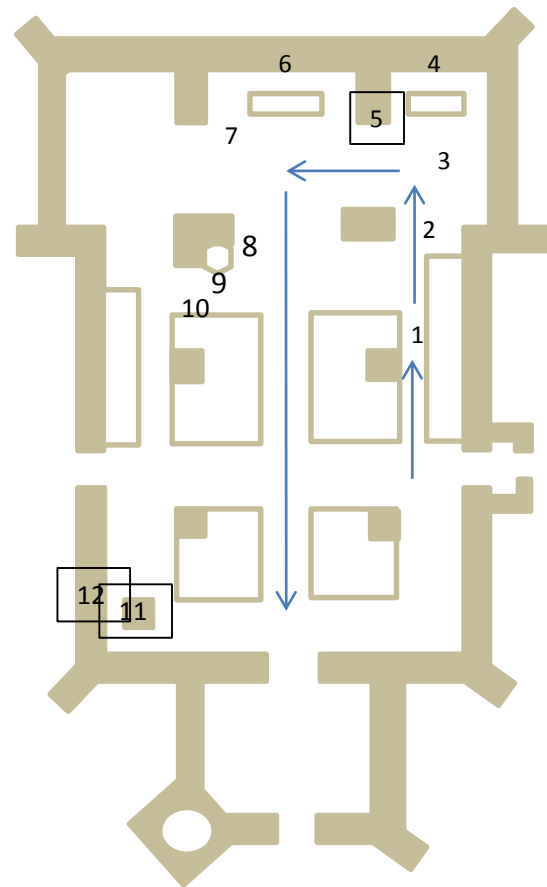
The altar rails are Jacobean. The oak panelling of the sanctuary was made early in the early 20th century in a matching style.



The east window is a memorial to members of the Hulbert family, installed after it was damaged during the Second World War.



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St Wilfrid is depicted in the east window of the Lady Chapel with the builders of the present church, which is shown in the background.



The Lady Chapel was consecrated in 1316 by John de Droghensford, who was son of a local squire, and at that time Bishop of Bath & Wells.



The oak screen at the entrance to the Lady Chapel was designed by Sir Charles Nicholson when he was working on designs for Portsmouth Cathedral in 1935.



A light brown marble slab set in the floor of the south aisle is in memory of Nicholas Preston, Rector from 1642 to 1650, and again from 1660 to 1664, after a break imposed by the Puritans.



The stained glass window in the south west corner of the church was designed by Vanessa Cutler, and installed to mark the Millennium in 2000.

The pillars of the nave and chancel were part of the walls of the Norman church. The chancel arch has distinctive Norman zigzag carving.



The oak screen leading to the Lady Chapel was designed by Sir Charles Nicholson in 1935.



The pulpit is a 19th century copy of a 15th century design, given to Droxford in 1882 by St Matthew's, Denmark Hill.



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The stained glass window in the north west corner is by Carl Edwards, and depicts the Creation (1).



The altar rails are Jacobean. The oak panelling of the sanctuary was made early in the early 20th century in a matching style.



The stained glass in the east window was installed after it suffered bomb damage during the Second World War.



The figure of a woman in the Lady Chapel is likely to have been part of a memorial erected by John de Drokensford to his parents.



St Wilfrid is depicted in the east window of the Lady Chapel with the builders of the present church.



A medieval piscina, used for washing communion vessels, was uncovered in the early 20th century.

The Lady Chapel was consecrated by John de Drokensford in 1316. He was a son of the local squire who had by then become Bishop of Bath & Wells.



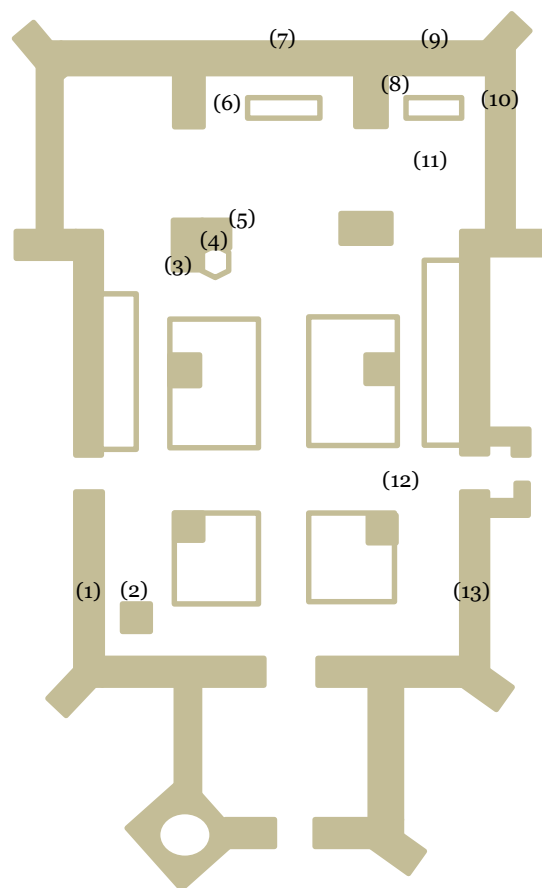
The stained glass of the windows in the south wall of the Lady Chapel dates from about 1900. The right hand window shows Mary Magdalene with the risen Christ.



There are faint remains of wall paintings on the arches of the south arcade. These may date from medieval times.



The stained glass window in the south west corner of the church was installed to mark the Millennium in 2000.



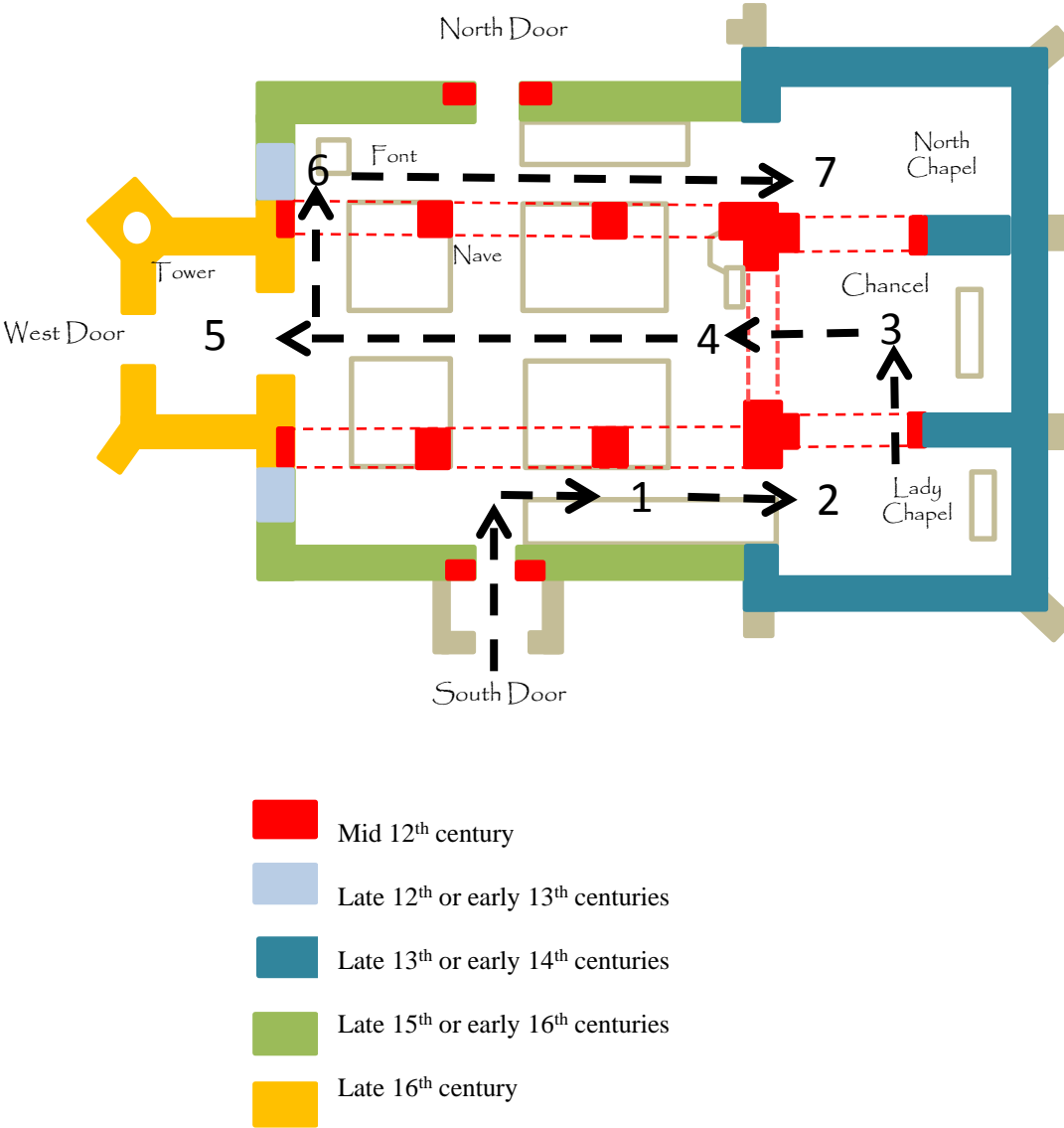
Welcome to St Mary & All Saints. St Wilfrid may have established a religious community at Droxford during his mission to the Meon Valley in 681 to 686, but the earliest record of a church here is in the Domesday Book of 1086, when it was valued at 20 shillings, and held by the Bishop of Winchester for the benefit of his monks.

No remains of this Anglo-Saxon foundation have yet been found, and the earliest details of the present church are Norman, dating from about 1150, when it probably consisted of just a nave and chancel, possibly with an apse. Side aisles and chapels were added during the medieval period, and the present tower is Tudor, believed to date from 1599. This evolution of the ground plan of the church over the centuries is illustrated on the plan opposite.

St Mary & All Saints has a significant number of medieval features that have survived since before the Reformation. The present furnishings date back to the Jacobean period, but the majority are Victorian, and still evoke the characteristics of the evangelical period that St Mary & All Saints experienced at that time.

The church has a good collection of stained glass windows from the 20th century, from some of the leading designers and manufacturers of the time. Display cards alongside each of them provide more information about them.

This short guidebook illustrates these and others features of this historic Grade 1 listed church, and the stories of people associated with them. A route around the building is suggested on the plan opposite. At the end of the route you will find more information and video displays in our heritage Café.

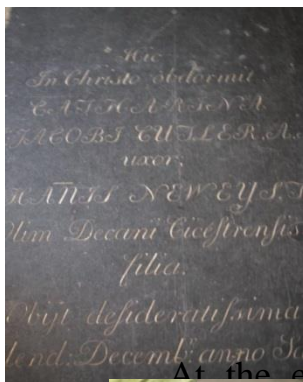


1. South Aisle

St Mary & All Saints has a wealth of memorials. In floor of the South Aisle is a light brown marble slab in memory of Nicholas Preston, Rector from 1642 to 1650, and again from 1660 to 1664 after a break imposed by the Puritans.



A little further on two polished two black marble floor slabs are dedicated to memorial tablet with Doctor James Cutler, Rector from 1746 to 1782, and his wife Catherine who died in 1770. The crest depicting the outstretched wing of a bird, and beneath it a coat-of-arms, is in memory of Richard Goodlad and his wife Leonora, both of whom died in January 1811. Mr Goodlad was a magistrate with a reputation for his arbitration in 1935, when he was described by William Cobbett in his Rural Rides as a cock Justice of the Peace. He was Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire in 1803, and Sheriff in 1818.



Amongst the wall is a white memory of Justice of the Peace died in 1811 memorial Barfoot, v

2. Lady Chapel



3. Chancel

- Window segments
- Altar rails
- Panelling
- East window



4. The Victorian Church

- Pew
- [unclear]
- [unclear]
- [unclear]



5. The Tower

6. Baptism & Remembrance

- Font
- Memorials to Morley family
- WWI memorial
- Creation window



7. Heritage Centre & Cafe